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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

April 1, 2009

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The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

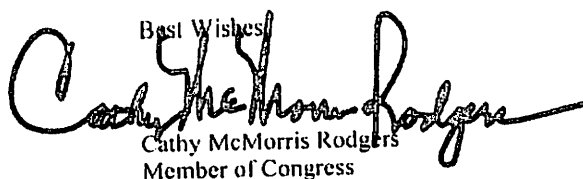
Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

I am requesting funding for the Grass Seed Cropping Systems for Sustainable Agriculture Project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$471,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

Over 90% of the U.S. cool season forage and turfgrass is produced in the Pacific Northwest. The grass seed industry is facing some critical environmental and economic challenges including: public pressure to phase out open-field burning; alleviation of smoke, dust, and chemical trespass from crop production areas; lack of integrated cropping systems; and development of maximum genetic and biological potential. These high-priority needs are being addressed, utilizing the research and technology expertise of scientists from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and USDA-ARS with input from industry representatives. Industry and state funds have also been directed toward this project. By researching the genetic of barley, the United States can further the goal of establishing and maintaining a robust and healthy agriculture industry and address the national and regional agricultural research needs.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the request: (1) is not directed to any entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that should this request be included in the bill, I will place a statement in the *Congressional Record* describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

Best Wishes

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CMC/lf

1323 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2006
FAX: (202) 225-3392

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SPOKANE, WA 99201
(509) 353-2374
FAX: (509) 353-2412

555 SOUTH MAIN
COLVILLE, WA 99114
(509) 684-3481
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29 SOUTH PALOUSE STREET
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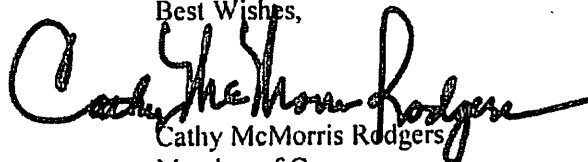
I am requesting funding for the Cool Season Food Legumes project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$235,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

Since 1991, the Cool Season Food and Legume research program has worked to improve the efficiency and sustainability of the U.S. dry pea, fresh pea, lentil, and chickpea industries. The program is a cooperative effort between federal and state university scientists to establish and maintain a robust and healthy agriculture industry and address national and regional agricultural research needs as they relate to the development of genetically-superior legume varieties.

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SPOKANE, WA 99201
(509) 353-2374
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(509) 684-3481
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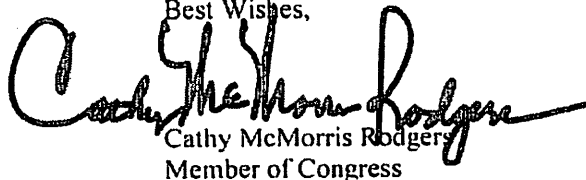
I am requesting funding for the PM-10 Particulate Emission Prediction and Control Study project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$268,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

By researching wheat farming and air quality issues, farmers can develop practices that allow for the control of wind erosion and dust emissions without suffering economic hardship. This research project addresses national and regional agricultural needs and helps maintain a robust and healthy agriculture industry.

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COLVILLE, WA 99114
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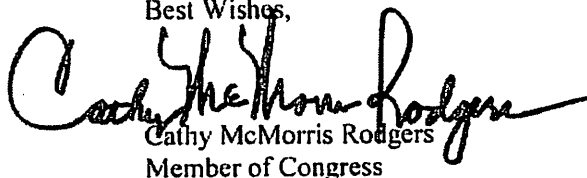
I am requesting funding for the Agriculture Research Service Laboratory project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$48,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

The construction of the Agriculture Research Service Laboratory is needed to advance the national and regional agricultural research needs. The ARS is the USDA's in-house research organization and the current facility was found to be substandard. Federal support for agricultural research enjoys a rich history, dating back to the Lincoln Administration and a research relationship between farmers and universities is an integral part of the development of improvements in the field of agriculture.

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SPOKANE, WA 99201
(509) 353-2374
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(509) 694-3481
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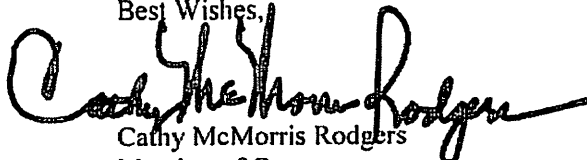
I am requesting funding for the Potato Breeding and Cultivation Research project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,050,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

Over a period of fourteen years, the Northwest Tri-State potato breeding and cultivation research project has yielded cultural management recommendations and new knowledge on potato varieties. This knowledge has led to the decrease in the use of harmful pesticides and increased profitability in the potato industry. In fact, a recent economic analysis revealed that every dollar invested in the program results in a \$39 return.

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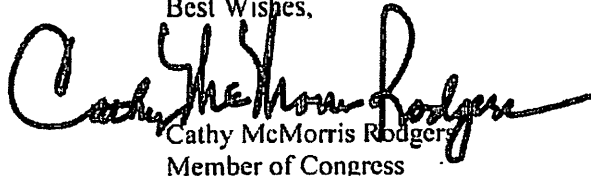
I am requesting funding for the STEEP IV project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$444,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

This research will contribute solutions to modern societal problems faced by U.S. farmers and the public, such as energy and food security, sequestration of greenhouse gasses, and improved trade balance. Conservation information obtained through this work is transferable to other parts of the U.S. and the world. Benefits of this research include reduction in food production costs and greater energy independence for the nation's food supply.

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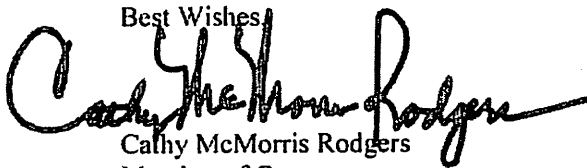
I am requesting funding for the Development and Feasibility of Perennial Wheat for Highly Erodible Lands project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$100,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

Perennial wheat offers a viable option for sustainable farming systems and improved environmental stewardship. Soil erosion by wind and water is a direct cause of lower air and water quality; perennial wheat provides constant soil coverage by plant material, resistance to pests and diseases, and as a source of straw for new fiber products. The overall goal of this research is to develop perennial wheat into a viable part of small grains cropping systems, especially in areas where soil erosion potential is high.

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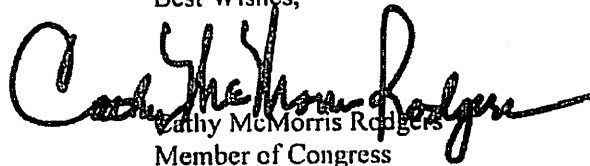
I am requesting funding for the Enhancing Barley Through Genomics project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$800,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington Grain Alliance, located at 907 W Riverside Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201.

The purpose of this project is to stimulate economic activity and improve human health and welfare by using the tools of genomics to develop improved barley varieties. Barley is a cornerstone of American agriculture; it provides farmers with an option to increase genetic diversity, use less irrigation water, and to be more profitable. It can also contribute to rural community sustainability and development by increasing the manufacture and sale of value-added barley products generating business activity.

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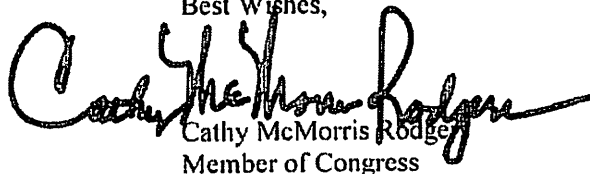
I am requesting funding for the Cereal Rust Disease Initiative project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$3,500,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington Grain Alliance, located at 907 W Riverside Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201.

Highly virulent and aggressive new races of stem, leaf, and stripe rust have appeared in the world, which now threaten the entire U.S. production of wheat, barley, and oats. An aggressive, coordinated research effort is needed to identify and introduce new germplasm, genes, and varieties with improved and sustainable rust resistance. If stem rust races become established in the U.S., wheat production losses of over 1.4 billion bushels per year, worth approximately \$10 billion, are possible.

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1323 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2006
FAX: (202) 225-3392

10 NORTH POST STREET, SUITE 625
SPOKANE, WA 99201
(509) 353-2374
FAX: (509) 353-2412

555 SOUTH MAIN
COLVILLE, WA 99114
(509) 684-3481
FAX: (509) 353-2412

29 SOUTH PALOUSE STREET
WALLA WALLA, WA 99362
(509) 529-9359
FAX: (509) 353-2412

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CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS
5TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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ARMED SERVICES
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REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE
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DEPUTY WHIP

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

April 1, 2009

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The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

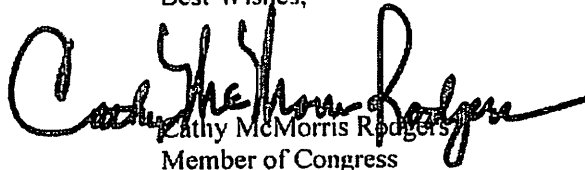
I am requesting funding for the Protecting the Pacific Northwest Grape Industry From Plant Viruses project in the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$233,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington State University, located at the French Administration Building, Room 324, Pullman, WA 99164.

To maintain competitiveness and health, this project addresses an immediate high-priority need to meet the certification standards of the vineyard industry.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the request: (1) is not directed to any entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that should this request be included in the bill, I will place a statement in the *Congressional Record* describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

Best Wishes,


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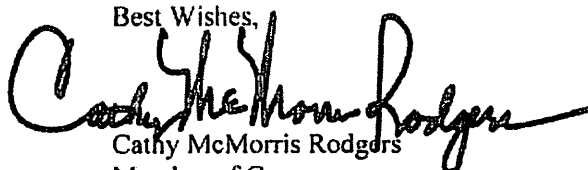
I am requesting funding for the Odessa Subarea Special Study project in the FY10 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,000,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Columbia Basin Development League, located at 8582 Road K SW, Royal City, WA 99357.

The Federal Reclamation Columbia Basin Project has been the underlying driver for the economy in Central Washington. Investment in the expansion of Project infrastructure to allow delivery of Project water to eligible lands will avoid ecological disaster by preserving the remaining groundwater supplies for other uses, maintain the existing production base, preserve jobs, and provide long-term stability.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

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(202) 225-2005
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10 NORTH POST STREET, SUITE 625
SPOKANE, WA 99201
(509) 353-2374
FAX: (509) 353-2412

558 SOUTH MAIN
COLVILLE, WA 99114
(509) 684-3481
FAX: (509) 353-2412

29 SOUTH PALOUSE STREET
WALLA WALLA, WA 99362
(509) 529-9358
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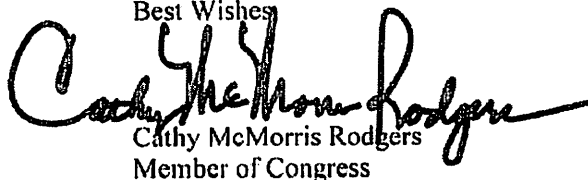
I am requesting funding for the General Investigations, Walla Walla Watershed project in the FY10 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$500,000. The entity to receive funding for this project is Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, located at 73239 Confederated Way, Pendleton, Oregon 97801.

The Army Corps, in conjunction with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, is focusing on the restoration and management of a viable ecosystem within the Walla Walla River Basin. The project is a high-priority for the local communities and the agricultural sector because instream flows enable the start of salmon reintroduction and a strong agricultural economy.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

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1(509) 353-2374
FAX: (509) 353-2412

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